

graceful drooping. There are generally fourteen hundred students; each of whom probably expends on an average £300 a year. The restrictions upon an Oxonian would make a McGillite wince. Living under the immediate jurisdiction of their College, they must be within the portals by nine p. m. must attend chapel, and in the event of repeated infraction of the laws, are not only subject to fines varying from five shilling to a guinea, but to the old school-boy horror of being "kept in." From boyhood to manhood is a step from submission to independence: but from Rugby to Oxford, is from freedom to restraint. In Heidelberg and other German Universities the students may miss lectures and pour the vials of their wrath and playful pranks upon the beadles with impunity. Yet on the other hand, we hear comparatively nothing of the license accorded the Oxonians at the Annual Encænia or Commemoration, where the students drown the speeches of tedious speakers by cat cries and humorous shafts of shout.

Every College has its separate Chapel, Library and Dining Hall, and Gardens. A College comprises quadrangles of chapel and rooms for the students, halls, gardens, walks and fine frontages. The buildings range from the 13th to the 19th century. In one quadrangle you may see architecture coeval with Alfred, linked with modern innovations and restorations, yet each distinct and well defined. The Dining Halls are grand architectural works of art; that of New College is seventy-eight by thirty feet: of Christ Church, one hundred and fifty feet long and fifty wide, and upon its walls hang about two hundred pictures. Are not the associations and noble impressiveness of these Halls rich appetizers to mind and body? Most of the wealthy students leave their College some picture or plate or endowment, and thus within the walls of the Colleges, a rich acquisition accumulates. A hint to the wise graduates of our Canadian Universities.

I cannot here pretend to describe the antique wealth of the academic architecture of Oxford. When Gothic was in its prime, its best votaries here displayed their genius. Here too have the classic revivals of modern times had their

finest creations. But the glorious tracery of Magdalen Tower and St Mary's cling to one's memory: the beautiful Tower and transepts of Merton College; the unique cupola of Queen's: the glorious Chapel of New College,—indeed, the risk is more to miss than to describe. But Christ's Church, the *alma mater* of Peel, Canning, John Locke, "rare Ben Johnson," Sir Philip Sydney, the Wesley's, Gladstone etc., has many rich historical associations. It is never called a College, but "The House" (*Ædes Christi*.) Its Hall is the most splendid mediæval Hall in England, except Westminster. The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, with its picturesque Italian porch of curled columns and rich tracery recently restored, is well worth a visit. I managed to get an *entrée*, and as I stood on the spots where Wycliffe denounced the errors of the day, where Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer were cited, and tried, where Amy Robsart, the heroine of Scott's "*Kenilworth*" is buried, I would have been less than human had I been insensible to the atmosphere of bygone history.

I enjoyed very much a visit to the Ashmolean Museum, containing a rich collection of antiquities, and the Arundel marbles. Its caretaker informed me that it was the oldest collection in England. Here I saw the sword sent by Pope Leo X to King Henry VIII, (1514) with the title of "Defender of the Faith." Its handle is of crystal, and its mountings of wrought silver. Also Queen Elizabeth's watch: a little stumpy, ugly thing, studded over with blue stones; having attached to it a row of lockets, containing plaited hair and also a skull and cross bones. Also Cromwell's watch and privy seal and many articles from Anglo-Saxon graves; a lock of the hair of King Edward IV, taken from his head when his body was found in the College chapel of Windsor (1789) fine Romano-British, and Egyptian collections; Roman pottery; pre-historic collections of flint implements, spear heads &c., the hat worn by President Bradshaw when he passed sentence on King Charles I: the riding boots of "good Queen Bess," showing her to have had a very dainty foot and leg.

Each College has a rich Library of its own,